

WILDLAND FIRE-EVACUATION PLAN

PINE COVE, IDYLLWILD AND MOUNTAIN CENTER

ARE YOU PREPARED?

What Would Happen in the Case of an Evacuation?

The Fire Departments serving your community will decide areas to be evacuated and notify the occupants. The area to be evacuated will depend upon where the fire is, wind, and fire behavior. Fixed evacuation plans will not work due to the variability of fire spread.

The Riverside County Sheriff Department is responsible for carrying out the evacuation. They will use deputies, Mountain Community Patrol and cooperating law enforcement agencies. Law enforcement agencies are responsible for the security of areas that are evacuated.

The American Red Cross will decide where people will be relocated for long term care. Red Cross will have a representative in the Incident Command Post.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) will control traffic flow and maintain access for emergency equipment. CHP will have a representative at the Incident Command Post. CHP may utilize CALTRANS, Mountain Community Patrol, or other trained volunteers to meet their mission.

What to do if a Wildfire is Approaching?

Park your vehicles facing out. Put your valuables in the car. Place car keys where you can find them.

Keep a copy of this information guide, including the attached maps, in the glove compartment of all vehicles for easy reference.

Secure pets and prepare them to be transported.

Close shutters, heavy drapes and non-flammable window coverings.

Leave your electricity on and leave inside lights on.

Place a garden hose and buckets full of water around the house. Make ground ladders available for firefighters to use.

Cover up by wearing long pants, long sleeved shirt, goggles or glasses and a baseball cap and bandanna to cover your face. 100% cotton clothing is preferable.

Four Levels of Evacuation

Evacuation Notification: Residents will be advised of potential hazards and the possibility of future mandatory evacuation. When an evacuation order is given, please follow the orders given to you by the fire department or law enforcement personnel, including the amount of time you have to leave the evacuation zone. Residents should prepare for the following alternatives and will be given instructions as to travel routes and the safe locations, as listed below:

- **Level One – Shelter in Place:** This would be for a low intensity fire where the structures have good clearance and are made of fire resistant materials and the Fire Departments felt it was safe to stay.

- **Level Two – Safety Zones:** Temporary holding areas for smaller groups of people that provide a safe haven until shelter locations can be established. These locations are distributed throughout the community to provide safe areas that are relatively short distance from their homes. A map of established safety zones and a list describing their location are attached. **Not all safety zones may be available based on the location of the fire.**
- **Level Three – Shelters:** The American Red Cross establishes shelters for the immediate and long term housing and care of evacuated residents. Residents will be advised of what relocation shelters will be utilized for the duration of the fire.
- **Level Four – Mandatory Evacuation:** Due to the location and intensity of an approaching fire, officials may feel it is appropriate to order a mandatory evacuation of all people in the affected area(s).
- **Alternative Locations:** Residents who do not wish to use Red Cross shelters should consider determining in advance alternative housing locations. Access to these locations may be restricted due to the road closures resulting from the fire.

Planning Your Escape Route

The direction of your escape will be dictated by the location of the fire relation to your home and the direction and speed the fire is spreading. The following concepts will help determine the safest travel route.

- **Site Safety Zones**
 - Know the location of all safety zones in your area.
- **Primary Travel Routes**
 - Know the primary travel routes to get to the safety zones.
 - Be prepared to be directed by law enforcement or traffic control personnel. You must follow their directions.
 - Drive the routes in advance so that you will be prepared for the confusion of an actual emergency.
 - Have checklist and map ready with all the actions you will take prior to and during evacuation.

Notification of Citizens Affected

- Fire Department Personnel
 - Home-to-home by the Sheriff's Department, CHP or their volunteers
 - Emergency Alert System (EAS), alerting on radio and TV
- Note: WNKI (1610 AM) will attempt to broadcast current information provided by the emergency response agencies regarding the fire and levels of evacuation.**

When Can People Come Back into Their Homes?

The fire departments will determine when it is safe for citizens to move back into their homes. This will be done as-soon-as possible.

This will be announced through the media as well as on the Department's information phone lines, at roadblocks, safety zones and relocation shelters.

For additional information, please contact any of the following Fire Department offices:
 Idyllwild Fire Protection District: (909) 659-2153 USFS/Idyllwild: (909) 659-2117
 CDF/Riverside County Fire Department – Pine Cove: (909) 659-2732